

U.S. Assistance in Latin America

U.S. government aid is motivated by partnership and designed to promote a transition to self-sustaining economic growth in developing countries. In times of crisis, the U.S. is always ready to extend a helping hand. Our ongoing development assistance helps countries govern justly, invest in their people, and promote economic freedom.

Worldwide

- The United States is the world's largest donor of bilateral and multilateral foreign aid. It **gave \$25.2 billion in official development assistance in 2008**. This is the second highest annual level ever provided by any donor country. The highest was in 2005, when the U.S. provided \$27.9 billion.
- The United States is by far the **world's largest contributor to the United Nations and to multilateral development banks**.
 - ✓ The US contributes **22% of the UN's budget** for a total amount of \$910.306 million in 2006. Contributions to the UN are determined by the UN every three years based on each member's Gross National Product. The US also **voluntarily contributed an additional \$367.55 million** in 2006 to UN agencies like UNDP, UNICEF, and UNESCO.
 - ✓ The US has **16.41% of the shares of World Bank's** total capital stock and **16.83% of the IMF's** total capital stock. Japan follows with 7.87% and 6.02% respectively.
 - ✓ In 2008, the US contributed **\$24.8 million to the Inter-American Development Bank**.
- The total **Millennium Challenge Account appropriated funding from FY 2004 through FY 2008 was over \$7.5 billion**.
- Through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the United States provided **\$6 billion in HIV/AIDS funding** in 2008. Haiti and Guyana are PEPFAR focus countries.
- More than **\$2.5 billion has been allocated to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria** since the fund's launch in 2001.
- **\$3.0 billion in U.S. humanitarian assistance** was granted in 2006, or 35% of the total humanitarian assistance given by all countries in the world.
- The United States is also the **world's top net goods importer** from developing countries at \$557.5 billion in net imports in 2006.
- Private U.S. donors gave **\$33.5 billion in charitable contributions** to developing countries in 2005.
- The US government has **directly contributed approximately \$35 billion annually** to developing countries in recent years, excluding contributions to multilateral institutions such as the UN and World Bank and private donations from Americans.

Latin America

- In Latin America and the Caribbean alone, **total assistance is estimated at \$1.9 billion in 2008.**
- The US has spent over **\$16 billion in Latin America in the last ten years.**
- In addition, **MCC has provided \$887.6 million** to Latin America.
 - Compact: Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador.
 - Threshold: Guyana, Peru, and Paraguay.
- Since CAFTA-DR was signed by the U.S. Congress in July 2005, the United States has provided **\$128.7 million in trade capacity building assistance to CAFTA-DR countries**, including Costa Rica.
- Since 2001, **Peace Corps has spent an average of \$44 million per year** in the region and provided an average of **more than 2,200 volunteers** to the hemisphere to provide technical assistance and advance world peace and friendship.
- In recent years, **US assistance to Latin America has totaled approximately \$3 billion per year.**

Costa Rica

- In 2007, the US government provided nearly **\$7 million in assistance to Costa Rica** in the areas of: agriculture, citizen safety, environment, educational and cultural programs, English language, economic and commercial assistance, social programs, security, and disaster assistance.
- The US Government has provided about **\$51 million to Costa Rica in the last ten years** and **approximately \$1.8 billion to Costa Rica since 1946.**